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**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,  
CONTINUATION, OR C-I-P)**

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As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

This declaration is for an original application.

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TITLE OF INVENTION**

REINFORCING BRACKET FOR TRAILER FRAME

**SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION**

The specification is attached hereto.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56, and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent.

## POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint the following practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

APPOINTED PRACTITIONER(S)	REGISTRATION NUMBER(S)
Michael H. Minns	31,985
Edwin W. Oldham	22,003
Scott M. Oldham	32,712
Stephen L. Grant	33,390
Mark A. Watkins	33,813
R. Eric Gaum	39,199
Alexander D. Bommarito	44,036
Eryn R. Ace	44,491
Robert J. Clark	45,835

I hereby appoint the practitioner(s) associated with the Customer Number provided below to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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### SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO

Michael H. Minns  
Hahn Loeser & Parks  
Twin Oaks Estate  
1225 West Market Street  
Akron, OH 44313-7188

### DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

Michael H. Minns  
330-864-5550

Customer Number 021324

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**DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**SIGNATURE(S)**

Bernard F. Garceau  
Inventor's signature



Date 02-15-2002

Country of Citizenship US

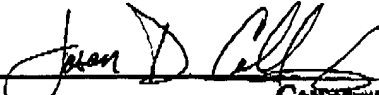
Residence Granger, IN

Post Office Address 12244 Saddle Horn Court, Granger, IN 46530

\*\*\*\*\*

Jason D. Collins

Inventor's signature



Date 02-15-2002

Country of Citizenship US

Residence Elkhart, IN

Post Office Address 1006 Caroline Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46516

Declaration and Power of Attorney--page 3 of 3